

REMARKS

Species 1 (claims 14-17, 21, 22, and 25) is elected without traverse, and it is requested that non-elected claims 18-20, 23, 24 and 26 be retained in this application without further action, for possible rejoinder or for filing in a further divisional application.

The specification has been amended to obviate the objection raised in cipher 8 of the Action.

Claims 14, 21, and 25 have been amended to clarify the invention, and to better define the invention over the prior art. Claims 17 and 22 have been amended to obviate the objection raised in cipher 9 of the Action. And, claims 21 and 22 have been amended to address the 112 rejection. No new matter has been entered.

Turning to the art rejection, the rejection of claims 14-17, 21, 22 and 25 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Lin et al. (US Patent Application No. 2002/0022340) is in error. Independent claims 14, 21 and 25, as amended, require "wherein the second thickness of said second portion is substantially uniform." Lin et al., on the other hand, teaches a thickness of the second portion that dramatically decreases as you move away from the intersection with the first portion. Thus, Lin et al. cannot anticipate nor render obvious independent claims 14, 21 and 25 or any of the claims dependent thereon.

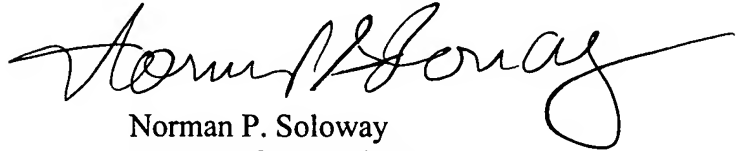
Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

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In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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